

To: [REDACTED] Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy
Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy
Cc: Jennings, Lynne[Jennings.Lynne@epa.gov]; Daly, Michael[Daly.Mike@epa.gov]; Walsh-Rogalski, William[Walshrogalski.William@epa.gov]; Olson, Bryan[Olson.Bryan@epa.gov]; Barmakian, Nancy[Barmakian.Nancy@epa.gov]; [REDACTED] Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

Ex. 6 - Personal Privacy

From: Downing, Jane
Sent: Mon 1/11/2016 9:08:21 PM
Subject: FW: NY Groundwater Contamination Issue - Close to VT Border

Hi All

FYI – PFOA contamination in school district in NY close to VT. Earlier, we did get guidance from R2 on this.

Call if questions

Have a day

Jane

From: Gutro, Doug
Sent: Friday, January 08, 2016 12:59 PM
To: Deegan, Dave <Deegan.Dave@epa.gov>; Bender, Emily <Bender.Emily@epa.gov>
Cc: Moraff, Kenneth <Moraff.Ken@epa.gov>; Hamjian, Lynne <Hamjian.Lynne@epa.gov>; Melanson, Kate <Melanson.Kate@epa.gov>; Downing, Jane <Downing.Jane@epa.gov>; Wintrob, Paul <Wintrob.Paul@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: NY Groundwater Contamination Issue - Close to VT Border

FYI... this was flagged by region 2 since it is super hot and very close to the VT border and may generate press or interest.

From: Shore, Berry

Sent: Friday, January 08, 2016 11:48 AM
To: Gutro, Doug <Gutro.Doug@epa.gov>
Cc: Brown, Rudy <Brown.Rudy@epa.gov>
Subject: NY Groundwater Contamination Issue - Close to VT Border

Doug:

As discussed I am forwarding you and Rudy a copy of a clip concerning a drinking water problem in the Village of Hoosick Falls, NY which is about 4-5 miles from the VT border, and about 10 miles due west of Bennington. It is a story that may be picked up by southern VT or western MA media.

We will be doing a lot of sampling and further characterization to characterize the groundwater plume/well field.

Our Regional Administrator will be giving a detailed presentation at the Jan. 14 public forum discussed below.

Hoosick Falls to hold public meeting on water problem

By newsroom@troyrecord.com, [@troyrecord](#) on Twitter

Posted: 01/07/16, 11:44 AM EST | Updated: 2 hrs ago

HOOSICK FALLS >> The Hoosick Falls Central School District will host a public meeting next week to discuss continuing problems with the quality and safety of village water.

The meeting, scheduled for 6 p.m. Thursday in the auditorium at Hoosick Falls High School, is being presented by Healthy Hoosick Water, a nonprofit group formed to push for officials to address the contamination of the village water supply with perfluorooctanoic acid, a toxic

chemical used for decades primarily to make Teflon coating for cookware. The group is also looking to address the use and disposal of the industrial compound.

Among those scheduled to speak at the meeting is Judith Enck, regional administrator for the federal Environmental Protection Agency.

“I am very happy that the EPA has taken a firm stance on the safety of our drinking water, and they will be instrumental in helping us obtain a safe water supply,” said Dr. Marcus Martinez, chairman of Healthy Hoosick Water. “It can only help to have our citizens well-informed, and I’m sure this meeting will accomplish that task.”

The EPA recommended in December that village water not be used for cooking or drinking because of the presence of PFOA in the public supply. The federal agency also recommended that private well owners have their water tested for contamination, as well.

Samples from the water system, which serves about 4,900 people, had PFOA levels that exceeded the EPA’s “provisional health advisory” of 400 parts per trillion in each liter of water. Some studies have linked PFOA to certain types of cancer, and the EPA is considering regulating it under the federal Safe Drinking Water Act.

“Our students have expressed great concern and uncertainty about the water and are quite sensitive to this issue,” said school district Superintendent Kenneth Facin. “We are the lead educational institution in this community and will avail ourselves to that end to better inform students, parents and community members about the science of this issue.”

Officials are unsure of how PFOA got into the water supply. Testing at the Saint-Gobain Performance Plastics site on McCaffrey Street found PFOA levels up to 45 times greater than the EPA’s recommendation, but company officials maintain they don’t know their facility is the source of the chemical in the water system.

The company is, however, funding a program to provide free bottled water to water system users through the local Tops supermarket and has said it would pay for the installation of a filter at the water treatment plant that would remove the chemical, a project estimated to cost about \$2.2 million.

In the meantime, local officials have said they are committed to keeping residents informed of the problem and efforts being made to address it. The village is regularly posting information on its website at www.villageofhoosickfalls.com, including a preliminary schedule for the upgrade to the water plant, which is scheduled for completion in October.

“The school district, although not on the municipal water supply, has a majority of our students residing in the village,” Facin said. “With that in mind, it is imperative that our students are fully informed, and knowledgeable about this very serious community issue.”